Borough of Rockaway

MUNICIPAL BUILDING • 1 EAST MAIN STREET • ROCKAWAY, NEW JERSEY 07866 www.rockawayborough.org • Telephone (973) 627-2000 • Fax (973) 627-8294



July 1, 2022

Dear Residents and Business Owners:

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has established a Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program ("MSRP") for all municipalities within the State. The program is designed to reduce pollutants, protect water quality, and satisfy Federal and State requirements.

As part of these NJDEP regulations, the Borough enacted several ordinances to control non-point source pollution. Non-point source pollution is the accumulation of various pollutants such as heavy metals, petroleum, organic sediment, animal waste and excessive fertilizers, which are exposed to rain water and washed into our nearby lakes, rivers, and streams. Our ordinances control the improper disposal of pet waste, feeding of wildlife, solid waste collection, littering, containerization of yard waste, and prohibiting illegal hookups to the storm sewer system. The ordinances are available at www.rockawayborough.org.

The Rockaway Borough Stormwater Management Plan and the Rockaway Borough Pollution Prevention Plan are available at https://www.rockawayborough.org/municipal/stormwater.

The Borough is systematically retrofitting storm drain inlets to meet State standards to eliminate litter and floatable debris into streams and waterways. All inlets have labels with medallions that say "No Dumping Drains to River". A liquid brine is used to pre-treat road surfaces prior to ice or snow storms to reduce the amount of grit and salt. A salt shed was built to prohibit sodium runoff into the groundwater.

Dumpsters and refuse containers utilized on commercial properties are required to be covered at all times to eliminate rainwater contact with dumpster contents. Rainwater can transport pollutants in the dumpster to our waterways rather than a landfill where it is intended. Lids for dumpsters can be provided by the waste management company that owns the dumpster. Commercial property owners should be aware that the resurfacing or paving of a parking lot will require the upgrading of the inlets within the paving area and should contact the Department of Public Works for details on the requirements prior to doing any work. The Department of Public Works may be reached at 973-627-7025.

The annual Garbage and Recycling Schedule Newsletter provides information and solutions to stormwater pollution that we can do every day to protect our water. It is available at Town Hall, on the website, www.rockawayborough.org, or call 973-627-2000 to have a copy mailed to you.

More information regarding how to keep our Earth and New Jersey's waterways clean may be found at our website, www.rockawayborough.org or at www.cleanwaternj.com. Topics include composting leaves, minimizing grass clippings, developing a home composting program, and how to participate in worm composting. Brochures are also available regarding backyard composting.

Thank you for your cooperation and efforts to help protect our environment and keep the Borough of Rockaway a desirable place to live, work and raise a family.

Sincerely yours,

Mayor Thomas Mulligan

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